



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Joanne Sturges, Acting Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer
Director of Mental Health
Director of Children and Family Services
Acting Director of Health Services

At its meeting held March 7, 2006, the Board took the following action:

14

The following item was called up for consideration:

The Chief Administrative Officer's recommendation to find that real property is not needed exclusively for County use during the term of the lease; approve and instruct the Mayor to sign a ten-year gratis lease with VIP Community Mental Health Center, Inc. (VIP CMHC) for use of a building located at 1733 Griffin Ave., Los Angeles situated within the LAC+USC Medical Center (1), in exchange for enhanced and ongoing mental health services to children and families impacted by child abuse or domestic violence who are under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), or in out-of-home placement; in addition, VIP CMHC will provide tenant improvements to the facility that will accommodate DCFS emergency response workers and the new Los Angeles County Elder Abuse Forensic Center; and find that lease is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Dr. David Sanders, Director of Children and Family Services, Dr. Bruce Chernof, Acting Director of Health Services, and Dr. Marvin Southard, Director of Mental Health, responded to questions posed by the Board.

(Continued on Page 2)

After discussion, Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“Children who come to the attention of the foster care system are often at an increased risk of medical and mental illness. These children require a heightened level of attention from the moment they are brought into protective custody and transitioned into foster care. It has long been a concern for this Board that timely and appropriate mental health and medical services are consistently provided to every child under our care. The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has identified the need for forensic medical and mental health expertise available on a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week basis, to meet both emergent and ongoing needs of children available in the foster care system. While DCFS is engaged in planning with the Departments of Mental Health and Health Services to meet this critical need, the vision to implement ‘medical hubs’ for foster children at six County hospitals has been slow in becoming a reality.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted the Chief Administrative Officer's attached recommendation; and
2. Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services, and the Directors of Mental Health and Children and Family Services, to provide a report back within two weeks that clearly states the costs involved for implementing the Department of Children and Family Services' medical hubs Countywide, steps taken to implement the hubs thus far, how many kids are projected to be served by these hubs per month, and a clear timeframe for full implementation.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
County Counsel